



### Hardwoods

To ensure that beautiful, mature hardwood trees will thrive on the property for years to come, a tree planting and maintenance plan was established for the Tennessee Residence grounds. In 2016, the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council certified the Tennessee Residence as a Level 2 Arboretum with at least 60 different species of trees on property. The Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. and its national organization generously contributed to the project, helping the grounds to qualify for its Level 2 status. A specific tree map is available online at [www.tn.gov/firstlady](http://www.tn.gov/firstlady).

### Carriage House

The final phase of the Tennessee Residence master renovation plan was launched in 2017 with the restoration of the carriage house. The project restored the building's exterior to reflect its original historic design and the interior was updated to provide storage and modern office space for the Tennessee Executive Protection Unit.



The Tennessee Residence Grounds



*The grounds have a storied history of engaging first families and welcoming visitors to the Tennessee Residence. When the property was first purchased by the state, it boasted 10 beautifully landscaped acres with specialized gardens and scenic views of the distant hills to elegantly complement the exquisite home.*

*During the Haslam Administration, the grounds have been revitalized to reflect their original health and design through a landscape renovation project led by First Lady Crissy Haslam. Nashville landscape architect Ben Page created a landscape master plan to encompass historic precedence and modern function. Thanks to the generosity of Tennessee businesses, statewide organizations, family foundations, garden clubs, local growers and individual donors, the master plan has been completed, including the addition of a Great Lawn and a Kitchen and Cutting Garden to help serve fresh fruits and vegetables to guests of the state of Tennessee.*



## Features of the Grounds

### Gardens

Directly across from the front door is the Historic Garden and lily pond. Garden Clubs of America across the state garnered support to sponsor the Historic Garden, and bring it back to its original health and design. It is now a vibrant, elegant front door garden, reminiscent of the original garden built with the home in the early 1930s. The lily pond and angel fountain are beautiful features of the Historic Garden. The irises are third generation plants of Natchez Trace Irises and Nashborough Irises originally propagated on the property by Mr. Ridley Wills, who constructed the home and lived here with his family before it was sold to the State of Tennessee in 1949. The refurbished herb garden located by the kitchen grows a variety of herbs to conveniently incorporate into meals prepared at the Tennessee Residence.

### Great Lawn

The beautifully manicured Great Lawn was designed as a space for entertaining. The lawn's pathways feature many native plants sources through Tennessee growers. The focal point of the Great Lawn is the beautiful antique urn. This rare cast iron urn is an excellent example of the work of J.W. Fiske Co., NYC. Founded in 1864, the company is viewed historically as the preeminent maker of garden urns. This particular urn is in a remarkable state of preservation because of the limited number of coats of paint it received over the years.

### Heirloom Vegetable Garden

Visitors to the Residence will see a great example of healthy farm to table eating and sustainability, as a wide variety of seasonal fruits, vegetables, herbs and fresh flowers is grown to use in the home and serve to guests. The garden is also used as a classroom for students to learn about healthy eating, science, problem-solving, sustainability and the environment through the Tennessee Residence Field Trip Program. Scripps Networks Interactive and Nissan North America were generous sponsors of this garden.

The design of the Tennessee Residence Kitchen and Cutting Garden, with its symmetry, well-defined paths, and center focal point, reflects a "Colonial Revival" style, a very popular style at the time the house was built in 1929. The Armillary Sundial, commissioned by the Tennessee Arts Commission and created by Jim Masterson, a celebrated artist with the Memphis Metal Museum, serves as the focal point of the garden. Its design incorporates several Tennessee symbols and tells the time of day by the position of the sun.

